

MARINE CORPS WARFIGHTING LABORATORY

Project Metropolis (ProMet) has focused on experimenting with tactics, techniques and procedures for tactical-level, urban operations, and with technological innovations for those operations, over the past three years. Following on the heels of the Lab's "Urban Warrior" series of experiments, ProMet has sought ways to improve the Marine Corps' ability to fight and operate in the most likely battlespace of the future.

Description: Partnering with Marine Corps Operating Force units, ProMet is currently conducting a series of six major experiments at the platoon through battalion (reinforced) levels, testing across all spectrums of conflict. Experimenting with symmetric and asymmetric threats in both high- and low-intensity combat environments, ProMet takes a holistic approach to finding ways to prepare for the "Three-Block War."

The ProMet team is continuing the Tactical Warrior series of experiments, aimed at analyzing the practicality and effectiveness of adding capability enhancements to small units within the Ground Combat Element. Based on lessons learned during previous experiments and guidance from the Commandant of the Marine Corps, these experiments will entail pushing capabilities down a number of echelons to unusually low levels. The initial capabilities that were experimented with were precision shooting, precision targeting, squad communications and organic breaching. Future experimentation will examine night-fighting capabilities and Stability and Support Operations.

With the completion of the Urban Combined Arms Experiment in the summer of 2002, and ongoing combat operations in Iraq, ProMet's focus has shifted to facilitating the transition of experimental lessons learned through the combat development process. These lessons learned will become doctrinal revisions, training improvement recommendations and identification of technological and materiel shortcomings.

PROJECT METROPOLIS

fact sheet



Deliverable Products: The Basic Urban Skills Training program will transition to Training and Education Command to provide the Marine Corps with a framework to build future urban training programs. The ProMet team will assist the Expeditionary Forces Development Center (EFDC) in rewriting and publishing FMFM 3-35.3, "Military Operations on Urban Terrain." They will also assist Marine Corps Systems Command to explore solutions to the multiple, materiel deficiencies identified during experimentation and those captured in Universal Needs Statements. First Marine Division will receive SASO training for their deployment to Iraq.

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